/387 cont./

231 782 alcohol, and its blood is offered to the demons. The animal's head is placed on a table where it remains on display for several days. It is surrounded with bunches of flowers, and under the beast's snout a napkin covered with coca leaves and small dishes containing various substances, all invested with magical qualities, is placed. The residents of the hut, who have set up this altar, worship it in summary fashion, the principal manifestations of which are gestures of respect and offerings of coca and alcohol.

Divination.

787 814 Like the Aymara the Čipaya Indians practice divination on a large scale. I had one occasion to have the future predicted to me by the most highly reputed specialist of the tribe, Anacleto Mullu. The latter used only a napkin and a certain amount of coca provided by the client as accessories. He began with a short prayer murmured in a low voice, during which he carefully spread out his leaves, patting them with the palm of his hand. He brought his right hand to his mouth /388/ forming a horn and blew gently into it. Then, putting his hand gently back on the leaves, smoothing and caressing them, he repeated the question. After a short invocation he took hold of a handful of leaves which he turned with a quick movement. He separated the significant leaves from the pile to show them to me. From what I could ascertain, a leaf must be turned with its nervures on top, have the petiole behind, and the point of the limb toward the end of the fingers to be considered a good omen. The hand is always kept open, the fingers directed toward the consultant.

To be good the leaf also must not be covered by any other. The leaves which are clearly bad are those which are presented in an inverted position. The worst have their shiny side up and the petiole directed toward the consultant. The precision of the more or less categorical reply of the diviner depends on his general appraisal and on the proportion of good and bad leaves. Folded leaves are taken out and have no significance at all.

Carangas - Chipaya

/388 cont./

The fortune-teller is satisfied to chew the leaves[1] with which he has been provided for his trouble.

Magical treatment of illness.

The medical science of the Indians of the Andean altiplano is very extensive. To be convinced of this one need only go inspect the sector of any native market whatsoever occupied by the chifles, or vendors of medicinal plants. The abundance of vegetable, animal, and mineral products, carefully sorted out in small boxes, which they offer is extraordinary and deserves a long, methodical enumeration. If one considers that each of these substances, in addition to its special properties, also enters in the composition of anomalous and varied mixtures, one will have an idea of the number of medical recipes which the Indians of the altiplano have at their disposal. To tell the truth, many of the [055] treatments recommended by the yatiri are strictly magical in nature; a number of the medicaments which they prescribe, however, are recommendable for their real and effective qualities. The Institute of Ethnology at the University of Tucumán possesses a very complete collection of these products and it is hoped that a study of them will some day be carried out by a pharmacist who is also a botanist. There can be no doubt that such an investigation, already begun by Nordenskiöld (1), has more than one [113]

1. Nordenskiöld (Erland). "Recettes magiques médicales du Pérou et de la Bolivie /Magical Medical Recipes of Peru and Bolivia/." Journal de la Société des Américanistes de Paris, Paris, New Series, Vol. IV, 1907, pp. 153-174.

surprise in store and /389/ will open new perspectives on the medical knowledge of the Indians of Bolivia.

[1] [i.e., coca leaves--Analyst]

/391 cont./

755 756 small paper bags and added rosemary, starch, and candy to them. He then grouped these bags in threes and made small packets of them which he tied with a red string. At the same time he had one of the patient's relatives make four small "tables" of fat, two of which he covered with paper, and the other two with gold leaf. In the course of preparation these objects were watered several times by the spectators, who poured libations of alcohol over them. They were given to the sick man with the express command to keep them in a hiding-place next to the topu for one year. The magician assured his client that during all this period he would have no misfortune to fear and that his disposition would become better: his quarrelsome temperament would give way to gentleness and peace would reign in his household. For, he added, the thrashings which he was accustomed to inflict on his wife and the uproar resulting from them were also manifestations of the evil power of the topu's. Two small flasks were next filled, one with alcohol and the other with wine, and placed with the small bags. The magician made one last libation on them and spit on top of them. The objects thus consecrated were placed in a bag with some khoa and some coins and the whole thing slid into a hiding-place concealed in the wall of the hut.

[757] The sick man began a prolonged exposition in a tearful tone of all the details of his sickness, while the magician was consulting coca leaves in order to know the result of his treatment. He mixed the leaves and tossed them in his hand ten or 15 times, and each time /392/ they pointed to a prompt and complete cure. A bit of copal was placed [illegible] drinking cups of alcohol, which the sick man, the magician and the relatives poured as an offering on the malevolent topu's. Whereupon the patient, his wife, and his sister burst into loud sobs which lasted several minutes. The first then kissed his wife's hand and congratulated the magician, making the gesture of clasping him in his arms, and all those present came to congratulate him as well as his wife and the magician.

5:La Barre E-5 (1937-1938) 1946
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the *Aymara*, the *Uru* distinguish siblings terminologically according to age.

Marriage is now solemnized, if at all, with a Catholic ritual led by a priest who yearly visits the village. There is a tradition that formerly couples were married while standing back to back in the water of the lake. Postmarital residence is patrilocal. Although Polo (1901) states that the *Uru* were formerly endogamous, a shortage of women during recent years has led men to take *Aymara* wives.

If the *Uru* ever had a tribal chieftain, he has long since been forgotten. Today, they have the typical altiplano native hilakata, or alcalde, appointed or elected yearly. Squabbles with *Aymara* neighbors are led by this official.

RELIGION

The *Uru* worship Pachamama, the earth goddess, and perhaps also a place-deity of the swamp, although they are nominally Catholic and have a small mud church in their village. Like the *Aymara*, they believe in dream interpretation, in meteorological signs, and in taking omens. Their sacrifices of alcohol, coca leaves, and animals to their deities are very like those of the *Aymara*. Bertonio (1879 b), however, lists several ancient *Uru* dances which have disappeared since the 17th century: the huchhu or sisa quirkitha, and the chiy-chiy, in which bags are held in the hand.

The main *Uru* fiesta is at the vernal equinox, but has been changed from the 23d to the 14th of September to coincide with the Christian feast of the Exaltation. On this date, they blow panpipes (siku), sing and dance the mimule, and perform the ancient rite of blood-sacrifice (wilancha) by slaughtering a llama and smearing the blood near the entrance of each hut. Most of the *Uru* beliefs and ceremonies are clearly from the *Aymara*.

Most *Uru-Chipaya* folklore is similarly of the common *Aymara* stock of animal tricksters.

THE CHIPAYA

The *Chipaya* of Carangas (Bolivia) are linguistically identical with the *Uru* of the Río Desaguadero but differ somewhat from them in culture, though retaining in common certain ancient features. Whereas the *Uru* are chiefly a fishing and hunting people, the *Chipaya* are chiefly pastoral and practice a little agriculture.

CULTURE

SUBSISTENCE ACTIVITIES

The *Chipaya*, like many pastoral peoples, dislike to kill their animals, and they eat llama flesh only when these are ritually slaughtered at public fiestas or important private rites. Curiously, the *Chipaya* do

5:La Barre E-5 (1937-1938) 1946
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Chipaya

ficed to the house spirits, and a cup of blood is presented with all kinds of offerings and decorations to the stuffed cat, which is kept in a corner.

The herds of each family are protected by a special samiri—a stuffed sheep buried ritually in a corral together with offerings of blood, herbs, and coca, and with a box containing images of sheep made of grease, mineral powders, flowers, sweets, and several other magical substances.

Whenever an animal is slaughtered for food, a short ceremony takes place with offerings of coca and chicha. The head is placed on an improvised altar decorated with flowers, on which they also place coca and the cupulae with the sacred mixture. The natives salute the head, offer it coca, and pour a few drops of chicha or alcohol in its honor.

After shearing the llamas and sheep, the *Chipaya* make libations on the wool and offer coca and chicha to small clay images of sheep and llamas. These images are also deposited on Christmas Eve on the church's main altar.

Shamanism.—Certain diseases attributed to supernatural causes are treated by the yatiri. He makes the usual libations and offerings, and kills a sheep by pulling out its heart, which is placed on the ailing region of the patient's body.

Divination is practiced by the examination of a bunch of coca leaves.

FOLKLORE

Chipaya folklore is essentially the same as that of the *Aymara*. The tales collected by Métraux (1935 c, pp. 395–415) deal with the misfortunes of Fox, the trickster, who is fooled by Condor and Duck. The motifs of the magic pregnancy and of the miraculous recognition of the unknown father which form part of the myth of Coniraya, recorded by Francisco Davila, in Huarochiri, occur also in a *Chipaya* tale. Other elements of the same tale show close relationship with *Chiriguano* folklore. The *Chipaya* represent themselves as the last survivors of the chullpa people who have been exterminated by the Sun, an obvious survival of the myth of the destruction of mankind as told in the ancient Andean mythology.

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